

IN THE CLAIMS

1 – 22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A topically treated nonwoven fabric laminate, the nonwoven fabric laminate ~~comprising 0.05 weight percent to 0.5 weight percent of non-ionic fluoropolymer, the nonwoven fabric laminate~~ comprising at least one spunbond layer and at least one meltblown layer, and the laminate further comprising a first ~~surface and a second, opposing surface, wherein the first surface comprises~~ dried coating of a non-ionic fluoropolymer composition on said spunbond and meltblown layers, said composition applied in solution form to said laminate so as to permeate and coat said layers.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) An infection control product comprising a nonwoven fabric laminate of Claim 23.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 23 wherein the hydrostatic head value of the treated nonwoven fabric is decreased by no more than 45 percent relative to the hydrostatic head value of an untreated nonwoven fabric.

29. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 28 wherein the hydrostatic head value of the treated nonwoven fabric is decreased by no more than 30 percent relative to the hydrostatic head value of an untreated nonwoven fabric.

30. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 29 wherein the hydrostatic head value of the treated nonwoven fabric is decreased by no more than 25 percent relative to the hydrostatic head value of an untreated nonwoven fabric.

31. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 30 wherein the hydrostatic head value of the treated nonwoven fabric is decreased by no more than 15 percent relative to the hydrostatic head value of an untreated nonwoven fabric.

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 23 wherein the nonwoven fabric laminate further comprises an antistatic agent [in an amount less than 0.05 weight percent] applied over said coating of non-ionic fluoropolymer on one side of said laminate, and wherein the antistatic agent is an organic phosphate ester.

34. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 23 wherein the nonwoven fabric has a hydrostatic head value of greater than 45 mBar as measured by Federal Test Standard 191A, Method 5514.

35. (Previously Presented) the nonwoven fabric of Claim 23 wherein the nonwoven fabric has an alcohol repellency of at least 70 percent as measured by INDA Standard Test No. IST 80.9-74 (R-82) and a hydrostatic head value of greater than 45 mBar as measured by Federal Test Standard 191A, Method 5514.

36. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of claim 23 wherein the nonwoven fabric has an alcohol repellency of at least 75 percent as measured by INDA Standard Text No. IST 80.9-74 (R-82) and a hydrostatic head value of greater than 45 mBar as measured by Federal Test Standard 191A, Method 5514.

37. (Previously Presented) the nonwoven fabric of Claim 23 wherein the nonwoven fabric is an infection control fabric that is or comprises a spunbond/meltblown/spunbond laminate or a spunbond/film/spunbond/meltblown/spunbond laminate.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 23 wherein the non-ionic fluoropolymer is selected from the group consisting of fluoroalkyl acrylate homopolymers, fluoroalkyl acrylate copolymers, fluorinated siloxanes, fluorinated silicones, fluorinated urethanes, and mixtures thereof.

40. (Previously Presented) The nonwoven fabric of Claim 23 wherein the non-ionic fluoropolymer is a non-ionic fluoroalkyl acrylate copolymer.